**Mismanagement of social welfare department in awarding old age pension**

† 2382. DR. A. K. PATEL: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to the mismanagement of the social welfare department, certain people are getting pension under old age pension scheme for which they are not entitled;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the details of the action proposed by Government to check this so that only entitled.people are benefited from this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) to (c) No, Sir. The State/Union Territory Governments implementing the National Old Age Pension Scheme (NOAPS) under the Ministry of Rural Development have been issued clear guidelines by that Ministry, for identifying the beneficiaries, meeting the criteria of destitution to become eligible for the NOAPS. The beneficiaries must be destitutes of 65 years or above, have little or no regular means of subsistence from his/her own sources of income or through financial support from family members or other sources. No specific cases of ineligible persons receiving old age pension due to the mismanagement of Social Welfare Department of State Governments have been brought to the notice of Government India.

**Scheme of old age pension to workers in unorganised sector**

† 2383. SHRI P. K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are formulating a scheme to provide old age pension to crores of workers in the unorganized sector;

(b) the number of aged citizens in the country at present, State-wise; and

(c) the details of the scheme and the annual expenditure likely to be incurred on this?

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) to (c) As a result of growing concern for old age social and income security due to changes in demographic, social and traditional structure, the Ministry had commissioned the National Project titled OASIS (An acronym for Old Age Social & Income Security). An eight-member Expert Committee headed by Dr. S. A. Dave, former Chairman of Unit Trust of India, was nominated to examine policy questions connected with old age. The Expert Committee was mandated to make concrete recommendations for actions that the Government of India so that every young worker can build up enough savings during his/her working life, which would serve as a shield against poverty in old age and reduce the burden on the State. The need for this arose because of lack of adequate instruments to enable workers in the unorganised sector to provide for their future old age. The final report of the Project OASIS has been accepted by this Ministry and has been presented to the Prime Minister by the Minister of State for Social Justice & Empowerment. The OASIS committee recommendations are being examined by a Group of Ministers headed by Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission. This Group of Ministers is being serviced by Insurance Division of Department of Economic Affairs.

The Present number of persons aged 60 years and above as per the Census of India 2001 is not available. However, the statewise population of persons aged 60 years and above as per 1991 census is given in enclosed Statement.

**Statement**

*Population of persons of 60 years and above for India, States and Union Territories as per the 1991 Census*

| SI. No. | India/State/UT | Population 60 years and above |
|---|---|---|
| | India* | 5,66,81,640 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 45,10,929 |
| 2 | Arunachal Pradesh | 37,560 |
| 3. | Assam | 11,94,460 |
| 4. | Bihar | 54,08,629 |
| 5. | Goa | 82,507 |

*Excludes Jammu & Kashmir where the 1991 Census could not be conducted due to disturbed conditions prevailing there then.

| SI. No. | India/State/UT | Popi |
|---|---|---|
| 6. | Gujarat | illation 60 years and above |
| 7. | Haryana | 12,67,741 |
| 8. | Himachal Pradesh | 4,20,003 |
| 9. | Karnataka | 31,42,708 |
| 10. | Kerala | 25,67,365 |
| 11. | Madhya Pradesh | 43,89,202 |
| 12. | Maharashtra | 55,10,131 |
| 13. | Manipur | 1,11,105 |
| 14. | Meghalaya | 78,742 |
| 15. | Mizoram | 33,186 |
| 16. | Nagaland | 63,777 |
| 17. | Orissa | 22,80,956 |
| 18. | Punjab | 15,90,059 |
| 19. | Rajasthan | 27.67,870 |
| 20. | Sikkim | 18,508 |
| 21. | Tamil Nadu | 41,61,822 |
| 22 | Tripura | 1,93,295 |
| 23. | Uttar Pradesh | 95,46,943 |
| 24. | West Bengal | 41,15,573 |
| 25. | A&N Islands | 9,546 |
| 26. | Chandigarh | 28351 |
| 27. | Dadra & Nagar Haveli | 5,943 |
| 28. | Daman &Diu | 6,327 |
| 29. | Delhi | 4,39,520 |
| 30. | Lakshadweep | 2,639 |
| 31. | Pondicherry | 58,440 |